

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 279304
ORIGIN OC-03

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DRAFTED BY: A/OC-NEA:RRIBERA

APPROVED BY: A/OC:WENAEHER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUSBKR/AMCONSUL KARACHI 2937

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 279304

KARACHI FOR RCO, NEW DELHI FOR CEOS

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN, CAIRO, DAMASCUS,
JIDDA, KUWAIT, TEL AVIV, NICOSIA, ROME, ATHENS, PARIS, FRANKFURT,
ANKARA, TEHRAN, JERUSALEM FROM BEIRUT NOV 17:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5754

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ATRN, ASEC, LE, APER

SUBJ: USG VISITORS TO LEBANON

1. IN RECENT WEEKS, THERE HAVE BEEN AN INCREASING NUMBER OF
OFFICIAL VISITORS COMING TO BEIRUT. MANY OF THESE VISITS
ARE IMPORTANT TO CONTINUED EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THIS
POST, BUT OTHERS ARE NOT. THE SECURITY SITUATION IN BEIRUT
IS STILL UNEASY AND, AS A RESULT, ALL USG VISITORS ARE TAKEN
TO AND FROM THE AIRPORT BY EMBASSY VEHICLE AND DRIVER
ACCOMPANIED BY SECURITY PERSONNEL.

2. AS THE NUMBER OF VISITORS HAS INCREASED, SO HAS STRAIN
ON OUR RESOURCES. WE WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE IT IF
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DEPARTMENT WOULD REMIND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES OF
CURRENT RULES GOVERNING TRAVEL OF USG PERSONNEL OR
DEPENDENTS TO BEIRUT, AS WE UNDERSTAND THEM:

A. APPROVAL OF BOTH DEPT AND EMBASSY IS REQUIRED
BEFORE ANY TRAVEL TO BEIRUT IS UNDERTAKEN. ANYONE
WISHING TO VISIT SHOULD ADVISE THE EMBASSY, INFO DEPT,
BY LOU TELEGRAM, AT LEAST SEVEN WORKING DAYS IN

ADVANCE SO THAT NECESSARY PREPARATIONS CAN BE MADE.
EMBASSY NEEDS TO KNOW PURPOSE OF VISIT AND HOW LONG
THE VISITOR INTENDS TO STAY.

B. EXCEPT IN SPECIAL CASES, ONLY TRAVEL ON OFFICIAL
BUSINESS WILL BE APPROVED.

3. WE WILL ASSUME, IN LIGHT OF RECENT DEPT PRACTICE,
THAT DEPT HAS APPROVED ANY PROPOSED TRAVEL UNLESS WE
ARE INFORMED TO THE CONTRARY. PARKER UNQUOTE HABIB

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